AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Application No. 09/902,957

AMENDED CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the liquid phase production of cumene which comprises the step of contacting benzene and propylene under liquid phase alkylating conditions with a particulate molecular sieve alkylation catalyst to produce cumene, wherein the molecular sieve of the alkylation catalyst is selected from the group consisting of MCM-22, PSH-3, ~~SSZ-25,~~ MCM-36, MCM-49, and MCM-56 and the particles of said alkylation catalyst have a surface to volume ratio of about 80 to less than 200 $inch^{-1}$.

2. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein the particles of said alkylation catalyst have a surface to volume ratio of about 100 to about 150 $inch^{-1}$.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein said alkylating conditions include a temperature of about 10°C to about 125°C, a pressure of about 1 to about 30 atmospheres, and a benzene weight hourly space velocity (WHSV) of about 5 hr^{-1} to about 50 hr^{-1}.

5-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A process for producing cumene which comprises the step of contacting benzene and propylene under at least partial liquid phase alkylating conditions with a particulate molecular sieve alkylation catalyst selected from the group consisting of MCM-22, PSH-3, ~~SSZ-25,~~ MCM-36, MCM-49, and MCM-56, wherein the particles of said alkylation catalyst have a surface to volume ratio of about 80 to less than 200 $inch^{-1}$ and wherein the product of said contacting step comprises cumene.